

THE ALMA RECORD.

VOL. XXXVIII—No. 62

ALMA, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY AFTERNOON, MARCH 29, 1917

WHOLE NUMBER 1984

ALMA IS FACING BONDING ISSUE

City in Need of Big Issue to Take Care of Improvements.

\$300,000 ISSUE SUGGESTED

Demand for Sewers, Water-mains, Sidewalks and Paving in the City.

The rapid growth that the city of Alma has enjoyed in the past few years, and the growth that is bound to come within the next two years, is demanding that the city take action in regard to constructing adequate sewer and water systems, and extend the pavement and build a great amount of sidewalk. A bond issue of \$300,000 will be needed to take care of the wants of the city. Alma today is having a famine in houses, a famine due not so much to the fact that people will not build houses, as to the fact that they can secure no modern conveniences in the new districts which must be built up, as the original plant of the city is entirely built over. Alma must furnish aid in the furnishing of sidewalks, sewers, water mains and paving at once, if builders are to be encouraged in constructing houses here and making Alma blossom forth like a rose, a new city that will be the pride of central Michigan.

The Republic Motor Truck Company, Inc., has plans for building about three-fourths of a million dollars worth of buildings here this summer, and is simply holding up the announcement, as a lack of houses is holding them up. Men are leaving the plant almost daily because they cannot find houses. The Republic is held up by the lack of houses and the houses are being held up by a lack of convenience. Alma should realize what that means. It means no progress until conveniences go into the new districts, and other districts not already supplied, so that they may be developed.

At a public meeting in the city hall on Tuesday evening of this week, it was said by officials of the Republic Motor Truck Company, Inc., that if the city supplied the improvements needed, that Alma would be a city of 12,000 within a year and that in five years it would be a city of 25,000 people.

An outside firm is known to be ready to erect twenty-five houses here the minute that it can be certain of securing conveniences for the houses that it will build. Others are holding up for the same reason and Alma takes no heed, but looks backward, putting herself on the back over the advance that the city has made in the past five years. Her head now needs to be turned ever forward, and every step to be taken should be one step more towards a city worth while.

Houses, business structures, we all want, and we want enough, enough to kill the rent hor, who is waxing fat now that Alma has no vacant houses and no empty business places. Until Alma gets modern improvements where these are needed, they will not come, and rents will not be lowered.

The Board of Trade has some good proposition under discussion, but until Alma steps forward with improvements so that houses will be constructed it is almost useless to attempt to bring more manufacturing institutions into Alma. Factories come only where they can get good situations. Alma can easily fix hers.

The condition of the streets, the lack of walks, good sewage, etc., were the propositions which went under a heavy fire at the public meeting Tuesday night. Mayor McKinney, Professor James E. Mitchell, George W. Moore, Charles G. Rhodes, C. F. Brown and others talked on various phases of the above named matters, and a bond issue of about \$300,000 to cover the cost of the improvements was mentioned.

A committee consisting of Charles Goggin, C. F. Brown, W. W. Cushing, Floyd Glass, Nelson Fullerton, George W. Moore and Charles G. Rhodes was appointed to investigate. This committee at a meeting Wednesday decided to confer with Mayor McKinney, City Engineer Smith and City Clerk Gallagher, asking for estimates of sidewalks, sewers and watermains to all sub-divisions, and to all parts of the city where such requirements are needed, and also for the paving of the streets to all main entrances of the city, and on all streets where petition paving has been made.

The matter of sewer, waterworks and streets improvements are just as important in many parts of the city as on the new sub-divisions. Many sections of the city are without these necessities which have been trying years to get them and have failed. There are many such lots that would be built on if these necessities could be given them.

NOTICE
We will be ready to deliver ice to part of the city until further notice. Call over either phone. I. M. Miller, the city ice man, successor of W. Miller. (84-11-c)

NAVY RECRUITING PARTY

A navy recruiting party will be at the City Hall, Alma, on Wednesday, April 4th, for the examination of applicants for the United States navy. Applicants between 16 and 35 years will be accepted, and men in all trades will be examined. Transportation will be paid for all men to the main office in Detroit, for all men who pass the examination. Full information can be secured from Postmaster V. P. Cash.

LOCAL BUSINESS MAN WAS MARRIED TUESDAY EVENING

W. S. Proud United in Marriage by Rev. Greene to Well Known Alma Lady.

On Tuesday evening of this week, W. S. Proud, one of the prominent business men of the city was united in marriage to Miss Bertha Diamond, the ceremony taking place at the home of Mrs. Lyons.

The wedding was a quiet affair, only a very few of the most intimate friends of the couple being present at the ceremony which was performed at 8:00 p. m. by Rev. Greene of Mt. Pleasant.

Both the bride and groom are well known Alma residents, both having resided here for some years, and both are held in high esteem by a large circle of friends in Alma and vicinity, who join with the Record in extending congratulations and wishing them a happy wedded life.

It is reported that Mr. Proud had a hard time in getting the knot tied at that. He intended to go to Ithaca on an afternoon train for the much needed license, but the train was hours late and he found that he could not get back in time. Forthwith he went to the garage and pulled out his automobile and started for Ithaca. Mud was around in plenty and it happened to be sticky, and hence Mr. Proud failed to get to Ithaca as quickly as he expected. He did arrive there about supper time, however, and caught the county clerk just as he was leaving the office and secured the license. The automobile made better time on the return, and Mr. Proud went to the depot to meet the parson, who was to tie the knot, and some way or other missed him. In hunting him up, the automobile again missed in the mud, but finally Mr. Proud overcame all of the obstructions that seemed to be in his path, and found Rev. Greene and the knot was soon tied, good and tight.

EDWARD J. MOINET
Republican Candidate for Circuit Judge.

According to the returns of the board of canvassers, Mr. Moinet was nominated for circuit judge of this circuit, by a popular majority of 527, which shows beyond question that the people of the district regard him as thoroughly competent to perform the duties of the important office of circuit judge. Gratiot county has had the office continuously for the past eighteen years (Judge Stone six years and Judge Seal twelve years) and all will agree that in fairness Clinton county is now entitled to hold the office. Judge Seal recognizing this fact by declining a further renomination. Mr. Moinet is forty-four years of age, and has been exclusively engaged in the practice of law in this district.

for the past twenty-two years; he was prosecuting attorney of Clinton county for three terms, and declined a further nomination as the extensive practice of his law firm demanded his exclusive attention. He has been engaged in some of the most important litigation in the state, and with his broad and extensive experience in the law can be relied upon to maintain the high standard established in this circuit by Judge Seal and his predecessors. He respectfully solicits the support of the people of the district at the election, April 2, 1917.

Editor's Note.—To several inquiring friends we wish to announce that Mr. Moinet is a 32nd degree Mason and a member of the Episcopal church. (83-21-c)

On and after April 1st, we will add ten per cent to laundry lists until further notice. Alma City Laundry. 84-11-c

Advertise in the Record.

RAY & HAYWARD,
A. W. DAVIS,
HAMILTON & McCARTY,
LOTT & WILLARD,
HARRY ROWE,
DAVIS & BELAN.

Barbers Notice
The following prices have been agreed upon by the barbers of Alma and will be effective April 15th:
Hair cut, 35 cents.
Electric massage, 35 cents.
Hand massage, 25 cents.
Pinaud quinine tonic, 25 cents.
All other tonics at the old price.
Shops will be open every evening until 8:00 o'clock; Saturday evenings will be open until 11:00 o'clock. (Signed)

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GREAT CROWD AT BOARD'S BANQUET

Over Four Hundred Men Were Present at the Big Affair.

SPEAKERS MADE BIG HIT

Over Half of Those Present Were Farmers Invited by Board of Trade.

Well, over four hundred farmers and business men of the city attended the board of trade banquet, given for the farmers around Alma last Friday evening in the Alma high school gymnasium, and a big time was had by the entire bunch.

Most of the things served up at the banquet were furnished by various institutions both in and outside of the city. Among those from Alma furnishing were the Model Bakery, C. H. Smith, Libby, McNeill & Libby, Swift & Company, the Alma Roller Mills, J. L. Miller, C. R. Brewer and Bert Eckert. The wholesale houses of Lee & Cady, Seginaw, and the National Grocer company of Cadillac, through their traveling agents, also aided in furnishing food for the banquet.

The banquet was served by Mrs. Frusch, and was one of the best that has ever been held in the city. Everyone had plenty to eat, numerous waiters seeing to that.

Following the banquet, during which the Republic band, rendered the music, the speakers were called upon to answer to the various toasts. These were for the most part, exceptionally good and enjoyed by one and all. This was especially true to "Twenty Minutes in Ireland," given by the Hon. Frank A. Dean of Charlotte.

Mr. Dean carried his entire audience with him every minute that he talked and at times his descriptive powers held the audience almost spellbound. Especially was this the case when he gave his lurid account of a case of sea sickness.

Among the other speakers of the evening were Mr. Bryant of Kalamazoo, secretary of the Michigan Good Roads association, who gave a very interesting address full of helpful hints in road making, etc.; the Hon. Clarence Holmes, superintendent of the Michigan School for the Blind, with a toast, "A New Way of Minding One's Own Business"; Rev. A. W. Wishart of Grand Rapids, with a toast on social preparedness; Roy Vandercook, publicity agent of the Pere Marquette.

Late in the evening the Hon. F. E. Rogers, state highway commissioner, was called upon to give the "Good Roads," and the discussion of the matter for which the banquet was given, was started. His talk was good and well filled with interesting points in regard to good roads.

Attorney D. L. Johnson, secretary of the board of trade followed with an explanation of what the board was trying to accomplish, and he outlined the plans for the state road west from Alma, which the board will endeavor to get through this coming summer. Alma is vitally interested in such a road and the probabilities are that the banquet did much in working up spirit towards the desired end, the securing of a good road west from Alma. Alma will do her share, with the various townships—Arcada, Pine River, Sumner and Seville.

W. G. Griffin, manager of the Alma Roller Mills, who acted in the capacity of toastmaster at the affair, acquitted himself in great shape, and proved himself a capable master of ceremonies.

The committee consisting of Griffin, Sister and Sanderhoff, who had charge of the banquet, certainly are past-masters.

PLANT DISTRIBUTION
This year promises to be a banner year for Central Normal school in their distribution of plant for Arbor Day. Orders are being received by the hundreds and it is likely that the better planting movement will be bigger than ever. The plants distributed this year are as follows: 2-3 year old black walnuts and butternuts at two and a half cents each, 3-5 year old sugar maples, 4-5 feet high, at four cents each, 2 year old concord grapes at seven cents each.

These are sent by parcel post prepaid, order must amount to at least twenty-five cents. This movement is carried on by the Department of Agriculture, Central Normal, Mt. Pleasant, Michigan.

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WILL USE CHAPEL

Eastminster Chapel to be Used as a School.

Eastminster, the newly constructed Presbyterian chapel in East Alma, will soon be doing duty as a public school, it is expected. The conditions in the local schools have been going from bad to worse of late months. All rooms are crowded to capacity. A couple of months ago it was found necessary to use the large assembly room in the city hall as a school room, members of the fourth and fifth grades being taken to the city hall for instruction, and this relieved the condition for a short time.

The continued rapid growth of Alma has made a rapid continuation in the growth of the public schools until again the three buildings are crowded and the proposition of taking care of the situation is again a puzzle for the school board.

Some time ago, the Eastminster chapel was offered the school board in case of need, and it is said that the school board will now accept it and use it for a school for the balance of the year, or possibly until the present conditions can be relieved through the building of a new school house here.

The L. O. F. lodge will also build a building just to the north of its present structure, and joining that of the Merchants' Building company, making three-fourths of a block of store buildings on South State street.

The building to be constructed by the Merchants' Building company is to be eighty-five by ninety feet, having a basement in height, and will have four store rooms on the first floor.

Just what will be done with the second floor is still problematical. It is the intention at the present time to leave one large room eighty-five by ninety feet on the second floor, for the use of a department store, or something of similar nature. It may later, however, be decided to divide this large room into office suits.

The work which is now under way will take about four months, it is expected, if the material for the building can be secured as it is needed. If there is a holdup on material, as may be the case at the present time, when deliveries are so uncertain, it will take just that much longer to complete the structure.

The cost of the building to be constructed by the Merchants' Building company is estimated at about \$35,000, and with prices soaring all of the time the probabilities are that it will cost the company considerably more before the structure is completed and ready for use.

It is said that the company is figuring on designating one of the stores so that it will conform with the needs of the post office department for a post office for Alma. The contract for the office where the post office is now located, expires in July, and larger quarters will be needed at that time, and the department is seeking a larger place for a post office here. It would not be surprising to see the post office located in this building as the nearness to the depot is one of the points that will be considered in picking out a new office.

Henry Soule, the local contractor, who has had the contracts for the buildings for the Republic Motor Truck Company, Inc., Libby, McNeill & Libby, etc., has the contract for this building.

The building of the L. O. F. lodge will fill the alley between the old Edwards hotel and the present L. O. F. building, will have an eighteen foot frontage on State street and will be ninety-five feet long. It will be constructed of brick and stone, similar to the present L. O. F. building and will be two stories and a basement in height.

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LARGE STRUCTURE STARTED MONDAY

Ground Broken for Building to be Erected on Old Hotel Site.

COST ESTIMATED AT \$35,000

Merchants Building Company is Behind Move. L. O. F. to Build Also.

Ground was broken on Monday of this week for the new building to be constructed on South State street by the Merchants' Building company, and the space formerly occupied by the old Edwards hotel, will soon be covered with a two story brick and stone building that will be a credit to the city.

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TRAINS DELAYED

The Pere Marquette passenger and freight trains were delayed for some hours on Tuesday of this week, when the morning Pere Marquette east went off the track just east of Alma. It was not until late in the afternoon that the train was able to proceed, and being on the main line, all other trains were held up, including the flyer west in the afternoon. The east bound flyer was also delayed for a short time because of this.

NEXT WEEK IS THE ANNUAL DRESS UP WEEK

Wednesday Evening of Next Week Will Open the Spring Style Show.

The annual spring dress up week starts Monday, April 2nd, and will last throughout the week, but Alma merchants will not bring forth their choicest wares until Wednesday evening of next week, when the second annual Alma fashion show starts.

The windows of the various stores will be trimmed in the neatest, prettiest and tastiest of ways, and each will carry the choicest articles of wares that the local fashion houses have for their patrons this spring.

The stores will be open all evening next Wednesday, and the public is cordially invited to call at any and all stores and inspect the new goods. The clerks will spare no pains to show the latest in spring creations, and even those extremely hard to please in matters of dress should be able to pick out that spring suit, skirt, waist, pair of shoes, or anything else that may be needed to complete the spring wearing apparel.

Even though not ready to make purchases next Wednesday, one should not fail to be out and take in the sights. The merchants promise that the windows will be the prettiest that have ever been shown in Alma, and well worth the attention of one and all.

Practically all of the progressive merchants of the city have taken advertising in the columns of the Alma Record this week, to call attention to the various wares that they will have on display next week at the spring fashion show. Read the advertisements and get next to some of the wonderful things that the local merchants are showing in greater array than ever before. Some of them are certain to have things that you are in need of, and when the need is apparent and the goods are new, the time for purchase has come. Besides Easter is only little over a week away.

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PRO-GERMANISM NOT FOUND HERE

Alma College Authorities Turn Down Invitation to Demand Peace.

PROTEST PACIFISTS ACTION

League Will Not Get Alma Aid in Heckling President and Congress Monday.

The officials of Alma college may be numbered among those that believe that the United States cannot stand for everything, the college having emphatically refused to join in the big demonstration for peace, which is to be held in Washington, April 2nd, to show congress and the president that the country does not want war.

Alma college is an American institution, first and all of the time and the heads of the institution believe that the United States must be united now, when a grave danger confronts the country. It is an institution that is a worthy one.

A telegram was received by the college yesterday from the Emergency Peace federation, asking that the college cooperate in telling congress and the president that the country will not be stampeded into war. And yet some of these pacifists would call themselves Americans.

The telegram received follows: "Dear Mitchell:

"Alma College.

"The Emergency Peace federation is arranging a great demonstration in Washington, D. C. April 2nd, headed by David Starr Jordan. Expect thousands to be there to tell congress and the president we will not be stampeded into war. Make every sacrifice to go. Take great delegation from your district